

Appendix 17

Natural Resource Recreation Setting: Range, Condition, and Trend for the GMCA

Bold Type = setting range
 = dominant setting
Bold Italic Type = setting decreasing in availability
Red Type = setting increasing in availability

Physical - Resources and facilities: character of the natural landscape.

	<i>Pristine</i>	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
a. Remoteness:	More than 10 miles from any road.	More than 3 miles from any road.		<i>More than 1/2 mi. from any road, but not as distant as 3 miles, and no road in sight.</i>	<i>On or near 4-wheel drive roads, but at least 1/2 mile from all improved roads, though they may be in sight.</i>	<i>On or near improved country roads, but at least 1/2 mile from any highway.</i>	<i>On or near primary highways, but still within a rural area.</i>	On or near primary highways, municipal streets, and roads within towns or cities.
b. Naturalness:	Undisturbed natural landscape			<i>Naturally appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable.</i>	<i>Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious primitive roads.</i>	<i>Landscape partially modified by roads, utility lines, fencelines, etc., but none that overpower natural landscape features.</i>	<i>Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development.</i>	Urbanized developments dominate this landscape.
c. Facilities:	<i>No facilities</i>			<i>Some primitive trails made of native materials, such as log bridges and carved wooden signs.</i>	<i>Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets.</i>	<i>Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs.</i>	<i>Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.</i>	Elaborate, full-service facilities such as laundry, groceries, and book sales.

Social - Visitor use and users: character of recreation and tourism use.

	<i>Pristine</i>	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
d. Contacts (with other groups):	<i>Fewer than 3 encounters/day at campsites, and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.</i>			<i>3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campsites), and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes.</i>	<i>7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., staging areas), and 15-29 encounters/day en route.</i>	15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campgrounds), and 30 or more encounters/day en route.	<i>People seem to be everywhere, but human contact remains intermittent.</i>	Other people constantly in view.
e. Group Size:	<i>Fewer than or equal to 3 people/group.</i>			<i>4-6 people/group.</i>	<i>7-12 people/group.</i>	13-25 people/group.	<i>26-50 people/group.</i>	Greater than 50 people/group.
f. Evidence of Use:	<i>Only footprints observed</i>			<i>Footprints and slight vegetation trampling at campsites and travel routes; litter only infrequent.</i>	<i>Vehicle tracks and occasional litter and soil erosion; vegetation becoming worn.</i>	Well-worn soils and vegetation, but often gravel-surfaced for erosion control. Litter may be frequent.	<i>Paved routes protect soils and vegetation, but noise, litter, and facility impacts are pervasive.</i>	A busy place with what seems like constant noise. Unavoidable litter seems to be a lifestyle choice.

Administrative - Management controls and service setting: how public land agencies, county commissioners, private sector service providers, and open space managers care for the area and manage public use.

	<i>Pristine</i>	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
g. Mechanized Use:	<i>None whatsoever.</i>			<i>Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.</i>	<i>4-wheel drive vehicles, ATVs, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized mechanized use.</i>	2-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also 4-wheel drive vehicles and non-motorized mechanized use	<i>Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.</i>	Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.
h. Visitor Services:	<i>None available on-site</i>			<i>Basic maps, but area personnel seldom available to provide on-site assistance.</i>	<i>Area brochures and maps, plus area personnel occasionally present to provide on-site assistance.</i>	Information materials describe recreation areas and activities. Area personnel are periodically available.	<i>Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions. Area personnel interpret on-site education</i>	Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled, on-site outdoor skills demonstrations and clinics.
i. Management Controls:	<i>No visitor controls apparent. No use limits. Enforcement presence very rare.</i>			<i>Signs at key access points, on basic user ethics. May have Back Country use restrictions. Enforcement presence rare.</i>	<i>Occasional regulatory signing. Motorized and mechanized use restrictions. Random enforcement presence.</i>	Rules clearly posted with some seasonal or day-of-week use restrictions. Periodic enforcement presence.	<i>Regulations prominent. Total use limited by permit, reservation, etc. Routine enforcement presence.</i>	continuous enforcement to redistribute use and reduce user conflicts, hazards, and resource damage